

**KING PHILIP REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE &  
SCHOOL CHOICE PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA  
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025 – 7:00PM  
KING PHILIP REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - LIBRARY  
201 FRANKLIN STREET  
WRENTHAM, MA 02093**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pledge of Allegiance, Recorded by Wrentham Cable 8

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**FY 2026 SCHOOL CHOICE PUBLIC HEARING - 7PM:**

1. 7 PM - Open Hearing, Mr. Lehan, Chair (Roll call of members)
2. Comments from the public
3. Close Hearing (Roll call of members)
4. Vote to be taken

**A.R.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Anyone interested in commenting on an agenda item during the meeting or making a statement during the public comment period is asked to complete an information card and hand it to Mrs. Venessa Petit, School Committee Secretary.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

*All items listed below are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion if action is required. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the committee so requests, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence:*

- Approval of Draft Minutes dated April 7, 2025
- Payment of Bills/Warrants/ Budget Transfers
- Communication

**A.R.**

**AGENDA**

**1. DELEGATIONS AND VISITORS:**

Dr. Rich Drolet, Ms. Colleen Terrill, Ms. Lisa Moy, Mr. Michael Bois, Ms. Michelle Kreuzer,  
Ms. Liz Orlando, Mr. Sean Jones, Ms. Barbara Snead, Mr. Aiden Shaughnessy, Ms. Venessa Petit

**2. STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT:**

Student Council Report: Submitted by Ms. Ashley Cleverdon/  
Presented by Mr. Aiden Shaughnessy

**I.O.**

**3. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

Superintendent's Update  
Assistant Superintendent's Update

**I.O.**

**I.O.**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Policy BGB-Policy Adoption (Second Read)

**A.R.**

**5. ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**A.R.**

**Purpose of Executive Session:**

The Committee seeks to convene into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 30A, §21(a)  
(2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or  
to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel

- Approval of Draft Executive Minutes dated April 7, 2025 **A.R.**

**6. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:** **A.R.**

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Reappointment of KP Crossing Guard **A.R.**
- Superintendent Contract **A.R.**
- For Consideration: To award a contract to Jill Brilhante, Director of Finance & Operations, subject to successful contract negotiations **A.R.**

**8. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES:**

**9. REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- Norfolk School Committee Representative: **I.O.**
- Plainville School Committee Representative: **I.O.**
- Wrentham School Committee Representative: **I.O.**

**10. LATE COMMUNICATIONS:**

**11. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**12. RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

The items listed on this agenda are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** School Committee  
**FROM:** Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent  
**DATE:** April 28, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** FY26 School Choice Participation – Public Hearing

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The Education Reform Law of 1993 requires any city, town, or regional school district to enroll non-resident students, if seats are available, unless the school committee votes, following a public hearing, not to participate.

(The vote not to be a receiving district must be sent to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education accompanied by reasons for the vote.)

**Recommendation:** Move not to participate in School Choice for the 2025/2026 school year due to the current enrollment in the King Philip Regional School District.

**King Philip Regional School Committee  
Minutes of April 7, 2025 –Draft  
King Philip Regional High School – Library  
201 Franklin Street, Wrentham, MA 02093**

**OPENING OF MEETING**

Mr. Lehan, Chair opened the meeting at 7:02 pm  
Pledge of Allegiance

**RECORDING OF MEETING**

This meeting was recorded by Wrentham Cable 8

**ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Members Present:**

**Norfolk:** Mr. Jim Lehan, Mr. Eric Harmon, Ms. Lisa Sheldon  
**Plainville:** Mr. Greg Wehmeyer, Ms. Michele Sharpe  
**Wrentham:** Ms. Cait Lanza

**Members Absent:**

**Norfolk:** Present  
**Plainville:** Mr. Bruce Cates  
**Wrentham:** Mr. Joe Cronin, Ms. Erin Greaney

**VISITORS**

Dr. Rich Drolet, Ms. Lisa Moy, Mr. Michael Bois, Ms. Ashley Cleverdon, Ms. Amy Remy, Ms. Kim Bertram, Ms. Venessa Petit

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion if action is required.

- Draft Minutes from March 17, 2025
- Payment of Bills/Warrants
- Communications-None

- **A Motion was made by Ms. Sharpe, seconded by Mr. Harmon, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, including the draft minutes of March 17, 2025. All in favor: Yes (6) Mr. Lehan, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe, Mr. Harmon; No (0); Abstain (0) Motion carried 6-0-0.**

**STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT**

The student council report was read into the minutes by Ms. Ashley Cleverdon.

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

### **Superintendent's Update**

Dr. Drolet shared his update, which included but was not limited to the following topics:

- Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter Update
- Norfolk Advisory Committee and Plainville Finance Committee
- Healthy KP Coalition and Wellness Committee
- KPHS National Honor Society
- KP Film Festival
- Sophia Evans Representing KPHS at House of Code Celebration in D.C.
- Therapy Dog Day

Dr. Drolet mentioned that the Wrentham Town Select Board sent an invitation to attend their meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 regarding the budget.

On behalf of the Massachusetts School Administrators' Association, Ms. Botttomley presented Ms. Remy with this year's Massachusetts National Honor Societies Advisor of the Year Award.

A copy of the Superintendent's Update is attached to these minutes.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Policy BGB-Policy Adoption (First Read)**

Mr. Hamon informed the committee that since the bylaws were recently updated, the next step would be to update Policy BGB-Policy Adoption, which needs to be changed to reflect this. The majority of the members was changed to the majority of the full committee, which would be five members and at least one of whom must be from each member town, Norfolk, Plainville, Wrentham. This is a first read. A second read will be brought to the next meeting to vote.

### **REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**

#### **Wellness Committee:**

Mr. Harmon said the Wellness Committee met to discuss the Wellness Policy (triennial review). This policy has some minor changes to it such as changing "water" "to potable water" as a state requirement. This policy is still in process and when the finalized version is available, it will be brought to the policy subcommittee if needed and then the full committee to vote.

#### **Finance Subcommittee:**

Mr. Lehan said the budget has been voted and presented to Norfolk and Plainville. The budget will be brought to the town meetings as well.

### REPORTS FROM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Plainville School Committee Representative: No report

Norfolk School Committee Representative: No report

Wrentham School Committee Representative: No report

### LATE COMMUNICATIONS

None

### REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

### RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None

### CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee seeks to convene into Executive Session pursuant to M.G. L. Ch.30A,§21(a)(2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. The Committee will not reconvene into open session.

### ADJOURNMENT

- **At 7:28 pm, a Motion was made by Mr. Harmon, seconded by Ms. Sharpe to adjourn the meeting. All in favor by roll call vote: Yes (6): Mr. Lehan, Mr. Harmon, Mr. Wehmeyer, Ms. Lanza, Ms. Sheldon, Ms. Sharpe, ; No (0); Abstain (0). Motion carried 6-0-0.**

Mr. Lehan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Mrs. Venessa Petit*

*Secretary to the School Committee*

### *Documents presented on April 7, 2025:*

*Agenda*

*Draft Minutes March 17, 2025*

*Bills/Warrants*

*Stuco Report April 7, 2025*

*Superintendent's Update*

*Policy BGB-Policy Adoption (First Read)*

# King Philip High School

## School Committee Report

Submitted by Ashley Cleverdon

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Monday, April 28th, 2025

### School-Wide

Students and staff just returned from April break, and we hope everyone had a relaxing and rejuvenating break! We are excited to finish the year off strong!

### Sports

King Philip currently has three undefeated teams: girls softball with a strong 4-0 record, girls track standing at 3-0, and boys baseball also holding an impressive 4-0 start. Additionally, the girls lacrosse team is off to a great season with a solid 4-1 record.

### Music and Drama

The King Philip Regional Music Program performed at the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association Concert and Choral Festival during the weekend of April 4th, 5th, and 6th. The High School Concert Band earned a Gold Medal, while the High School Concert Choir, Middle School Chorus, and Combined 7th and 8th Grade Band each earned Silver Medals. The 8th Grade Band also earned a Gold Medal. King Philip hosted the festival on both Friday and Saturday. All the performing ensembles were congratulated, and a big thank you went out to the adult and student volunteers who helped run the event.

The Winter Guard and Winter Percussion Ensembles performed at the New England Scholastic Band Association Indoor Finals on March 29th and April 5th, respectively. Both groups placed third in their divisions and were congratulated for their amazing seasons.

The Drama Program is set to present their play *Clue* on Saturday, May 3rd at 7 PM and Sunday, May 4th at 2 PM. Tickets can be purchased in advance. We hope to see you there!

## Clubs

### Class of 2026

The Class of 2026 held their Junior Prom on Friday, April 11th at the Tiffany Ballroom in Norwood. Students enjoyed a fun menu that included mac and cheese, sliders, a taco bar, and ice cream sundaes for dessert. Throughout the night, they danced, took pictures in the photo booth, and had an all-around great time with their friends.

## **Student Council**

During the second week of Earth Month, we continued our daily Earth tasks just like in week one, and we also made and served Dirt Pudding during lunch the day before break! This week, we're celebrating the end of Earth Month with a green and blue spirit day on Wednesday, April 30th!

Student Council also attended the spring SEMASC conference, where we learned lots of leadership skills that we're excited to bring back to our council. We're also proud to share that Caitlin LaPlante ran for and won a spot on the SEMASC board as a delegate for the 2025–2026 school year!

Follow the following social media accounts--@kpcares, @kpstuco, @kphighschool, @kphsathletics and Arbiter Live for sports schedules.



# King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee

From: Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent of Schools

Date: April 28, 2025

Re: Superintendent's Update

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## **Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter Update**

The week of April 14th we had no new students enroll in our school district and one student leave our district. The week of April 21st was the school vacation week. This week of April 28th we had two new students enroll in our school district and two students unenroll from our district. As of now, we have a total of 22 *students* from the Norfolk Temporary Respite Shelter being educated in our school district (15 high school students and 7 middle school students).

## **"ThinkFast" Presentation**

Like last year, our high school held an interactive presentation called "ThinkFast" with the junior class that was well received by students and staff who attended. Thanks to grant funding provided by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts State Police again selected KPRHS to be eligible to take part in the teen driver safety program this school year designed for junior students. This program is produced by award-winning ThinkFast Interactive <https://thinkfastinteractive.com/>. The assembly took place on April 10th for an hour in the morning.

*Program Overview:* ThinkFast Interactive is an evidence-informed intervention program that offers a comprehensive prevention approach. It utilizes a trivia-based game show format to provide relevant, fact-based information on personal safety issues and messaging, including highway safety and prevention measures specific to Massachusetts teen drivers. The program's experiential nature provides students with "memory hooks," facilitating memory storage and future retrieval, ultimately promoting improved decision-making aligned with targeted safety outcomes. Evaluations of the program consistently reflect high satisfaction levels among high school audiences and

administrators. Additionally, statistically significant improvements in teen attitude, knowledge, perceptions of social norms, and behavior intentions toward safety have been observed through this program's implementation.

## **Interim Business Managers, Treasurer Position, and new Director of Finance & Operations**

### **Interim Business Managers**

A few weeks ago I emailed you as the School Committee, and all KPRSD staff, about Mariam Goodman joining King Philip as an Interim Business Manager. Ms. Goodman will be temporarily filling in a couple days a week to approve POs, manage and close out the FY25 budget, and help us reconcile grants and revolving accounts. She currently does this same job part time for the Norfolk Elementary Schools. Prior to Norfolk, Ms. Goodman also served as a school business administrator in Franklin, Woonsocket (RI), and New Jersey. Prior to that, she taught kindergarten and preschool. Ms. Goodman holds a Masters in School Business Administration from Rutgers and a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education from BU. Her email is [goodmanm@kingphilip.org](mailto:goodmanm@kingphilip.org).

In addition to Ms. Goodman, we also welcome Dr. Bob Dutch to KP, who will be also assisting in the Business Office one day a week. Dr. Dutch joined Ms. Goodman in the Business Office after filling similar roles in Franklin and Scituate after he retired from Upper Cape Cod Regional, where he was the Superintendent and Business Manager. Dr. Dutch will be helping more with the operations side. Prior to his Superintendent and Business Manager roles at Upper Cape, he was an Assistant Principal and Principal there. Before becoming an administrator, Dr. Dutch was a science teacher for seventeen years in Hanover (South Shore Tech), Middleboro, Brockton, and New Orleans. Dr. Dutch holds a Doctorate from Northeastern University, a Master's from Bridgewater State, and a Bachelor's from Boston University. His KP email is [dutchb@kingphilip.org](mailto:dutchb@kingphilip.org).

Bob and Miriam had previously already met, as they had overlapped together in Franklin a couple years ago. I sincerely appreciate having Ms. Goodman and Dr. Dutch here to help out in our Business Office this Spring.

### **District Treasurer**

On April 12th our KP Treasurer Mr. Joe Meichelbeck resigned, which will not be effective until June 30th. I would like to thank Mr. Meichelbeck for his many years of service to our King Philip Regional School District. Mr. Meichelbeck has held this role at KP for twenty-two years! We posted for the Treasurer position on April 15th and we will work to fill this stipended position, which the School Committee appoints annually, as soon as possible to bring a viable candidate for you to vote on at a future meeting this spring. Aside from the Director of Finance & Operations, the Treasurer deals with (1) *cash management* - records all cash receipts, sends quarterly assessment letters to member towns, reconciles all cash accounts, funds approved warrants, and takes steps to ensure the safety of all deposits; (2) *banking* - works with Unibank for payroll and accounts payable; (3) *debt management* - pays bills when due, coordinates with the financial advisor at Unibank for new long term debt, refinancing existing debt as appropriate, and

updates continuing disclosure documents annually; (4) *audit* - assists in the year end audit, prepare debt schedules, fixed assets, and DOR (Department of Revenue) requirements for E&D (Excess & Deficiency) certification; (5) *relations with the DOR (Department of Revenue) & IRS* regarding payroll taxes payments and required filings; (6) *using the "iVisions"* systems for all the above; and (7) *student activities* - reconciling bank accounts to the online accounts to replenish student activity checking accounts with approved warrants

#### Director of Finance & Operations

Tonight you will be asked to vote on authorizing me to hire Ms. Jill Brilhante to be our next Director of Finance & Operations (subject to negotiating a contract). Ms. Brilhante (pronounced *Bril-yahnt*) is a true professional who will work diligently to make sure finances are managed well and operations run efficiently. Ms. Brilhante is a person dedicated to making sure things are done the right way. She will work to ensure all grants are managed properly, while also supporting the continued success of our academic and extracurricular programs. Having worked with her in my previous district, she corrected procedures that needed improvement which were noted in audit findings from prior fiscal years to the point where there were no findings in subsequent fiscal year audits under her guidance and leadership. Ms. Brilhante will work with me to secure funding for our King Philip Regional School District as improvements are needed. Ms. Brilhante is not afraid to tackle challenges, make improvements to internal controls, or communicate and collaborate with constituents. In her current role as Business Manager of the Blue Hills Regional Technical School, she has been performing the duties of the District Treasurer while they have worked to fill that vacated position as well. In addition, she is also the District Treasurer for Diman Regional Vocational Technical High School. Prior to working at Blue Hills Regional, Ms. Brilhante was the School Business Administrator in Seekonk, and the Director of Finance & Operations at the Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative in Dartmouth before that. Ms. Brilhante earned her Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting, as well as her Bachelors, from Johnson & Wales University.

#### April 15th Wrentham Select Board Meeting

Along with one of our Interim Business Managers Dr. Dutch, I attended and presented our School Committee approved King Philip FY26 Budget at the April 15th Wrentham Select Board Meeting. I have now successfully presented our FY26 budget to the Norfolk Advisory Board, Plainville Finance Committee, and Wrentham Select Board.

#### Spring Tri-Town Meetings and KP School Committee Meetings

I plan to attend all three spring town meetings to be there to answer questions as needed related to our FY26 budget. Norfolk's Spring Town Meeting is May 14th; Plainville's Spring Town Meeting is May 19th; and Wrentham's Spring Town Meeting is June 2nd. Both the Plainville May 19th Spring Town Meeting and the Wrentham June 2nd Spring Town Meeting conflict with two of our regularly scheduled King Philip Regional School Committee Meetings, so you may want to consider cancelling or rescheduling these two KP School Committee Meetings.

## **Senior Stroll Tradition Starting with our Class of 2025**

I am very pleased to announce our KPHS Seniors will participate in a "**Senior Stroll**" on May 30th, wearing their caps and gowns as they parade through the hallways of the previous schools they attended when they were younger students. KPHS Senior students will be accompanied by high school administrators and staff - they may carry with them a paper with their name on it (and possibly an old elementary-aged photo of themselves) as they walk through their prior schools. The idea is to have elementary/middle school students and staff clap or cheer for them in their school hallways as they pass by. This is a tradition we want to start here at KP along with Norfolk, Wrentham, and Plainville Elementary Public Schools. Seniors will be bussed first to King Philip Regional Middle School, then to the Gr. 3-6 elementary school they attended (depending on which town they live in), and then to the PK-2 school they attended in that same town. I would like to thank our partner elementary school superintendents, as well as their elementary school principals in our tri-towns, for agreeing to host and help us coordinate this memorable experience at our local elementary schools.

## **Student Council President for 2025-2026**

On behalf of Ms. Snead, I am pleased to announce that Aiden Shaughnessy was chosen by the class reps, student council e-board, and general members of the KPHS Student Council to be the Student Council President for our next 2025-2026 school year. Aiden will work with the rest of the board members, as well as our entire school, to work to create a spirited and proud KP community! In addition, Caitlin LaPlante was elected to serve as a delegate on the Southeastern Massachusetts Student Council Board. I heard she gave an amazing speech in front of 700 students! Congratulations to both Aiden and Caitlin!

## **Shadow a Student Day**

On April 15th along with many of our District Leadership Team members, I participated in a "Shadow a Student Day" experience. This was something I initiated with our District Leadership Team members to experience what it's like to be a student for half a day. Shadow a Student Day is a national initiative designed to help school leaders experience the school day through the eyes of a student. While we regularly visit classrooms, this immersive experience allowed us to step into a student's shoes - moving through classes, hallways, and lunch to better understand what it *feels* like to be a student at KPMS or KPHS. It was a good day for us to listen, participate, and reflect on the student experience. Next year we intend to include teacher-leaders in this experience as well. I would like to thank the high school student I shadowed, junior Kendall Noonan, who also had recently taken part in a Student Voice Summit at North Attleborough High School. Pictured below are some of us who participated in this Shadow a Student Day at the high school.





# King Philip REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

To: King Philip Regional School District School Committee  
From: Colleen Terrill, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,  
Instruction and Assessment  
Date: April 28, 2025  
Re: Assistant Superintendent's Update

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## **Applied Learning Leadership Discovery**

Tonight, Principal Michelle Kreuzer, Civics Teacher and Curriculum Team Leader Sean Jones, Project Lead the Way STEM Teacher Liz Orlando, and I will share our experiences participating in the Discovery Leadership Program through a grant sponsored by the One8 Foundation. Over the past several months, we have visited a variety of schools to observe [Applied Learning](#) in action, engaged in professional learning about the key tenets of Applied Learning, and worked collaboratively to develop a problem of practice for our school. Our focus on increasing student engagement aligns with our district's strategic plan and represents the foundation for the exciting next steps we are planning for KPRMS.

## **ELPAC Meeting**

Our Tri-Town [English Language Parent Advisory Committee \(ELPAC\)](#) Meeting is being held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at the Beatrice H. Wood School in Plainville from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. We are hoping families will attend to connect with other families for conversation, connection, fun and pizza. Families should register for the event through an email that was sent home.

## **Career Fair at KPRHS**

KPRHS is excited to host a Career Fair on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 from 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM featuring over 30 industry professionals from a wide range of fields who will be sharing their career journeys, experiences, and advice with our students. This is a valuable opportunity for students to explore different career paths, gain insight into various industries, and begin building connections with professionals in areas they may be interested in pursuing. This event has been

made possible through the collaboration and hard work of Jessica Nutter, Mallory Connors, Samantha Hilton, Sean Skenyon, Shawn Geary, Cheryl Rowe, Cheryl Dittrich, Nicole Bottomley, and myself. Together, we have worked to ensure the Career Fair provides a positive and meaningful experience for our students. The event is also supported through the Innovation Career Pathways Planning Grant we received earlier this year. Engaging with real-world professionals helps students explore different career paths, understand the skills and education needed for various industries, and make more informed decisions about their futures. We encourage all students to take full advantage of this exciting opportunity. We invite all of you to attend as well to experience the fair with the students.

### **Career and Connected Learning Grant**

On April 4, 2025, our Innovation and Career Pathways Team — Jessica Nutter, Mallory Connors, Sean Skenyon, Shawn Geary, Cheryl Rowe, Cheryl Dittrich, Nicole Bottomley, and myself — received notification that KPRHS was awarded the Career and Connected Learning Grant in the amount of \$35,000. Our team has been deeply involved in this work, having written and submitted the Career and Connected Learning Grant, as well as leading the efforts to write the Innovation Career Pathways (ICP) Planning Grant, and the ICP Part A and Part B grants. This latest grant was made possible because KPRHS was selected to advance in the process of seeking designation for an Innovation Career Pathway in Business and Finance. Receiving the Career and Connected Learning Grant will allow us to purchase resources and materials to further develop our Business and Finance programs, expand internship opportunities, and enhance career exploration experiences for our students. This critical funding will help us continue building strong, real-world connections that will prepare our students for future success.

### **Learning Walks at KPRMS**

On May 29, 2025, the Tri-Town Grade 6 elementary teachers and KPRMS English Language Arts and Social Studies/History teachers will participate in learning walks and vertical curriculum conversations following the same format the Science/Math teachers followed. The learning walk and curriculum conversations provide valuable opportunities for our educators to begin to discuss the alignment of their instructional practices and expectations. By observing classrooms and engaging in discussions, teachers will gain a deeper understanding of how concepts build from elementary to middle school, allowing them to begin to identify gaps, reinforce key skills, and enhance curriculum coherence. Additionally, these conversations will foster stronger collaboration between schools and the educators.

Following the learning walks that took place earlier this year, the Science teachers identified both gaps and overlaps in the curriculum between Grade 6

and Grade 7. Through classroom observations and follow-up discussions, they noticed that some key concepts were being taught in both grades, leading to unnecessary repetition, while other important topics were either introduced too late or not covered in sufficient depth. These misalignments made it clear that students were not always building on prior knowledge in a consistent or intentional way.

As a result, the Science team expressed the need for additional collaborative time to review and align their curriculum more closely. Their goal is to ensure a more intentional progression of skills and content, reduce redundancy, and address areas where instruction may be missing key foundational elements. These efforts will help create a more coherent and connected learning experience for students as they move from elementary to middle school science.

### **PE/Health Teachers**

The Tri-Town middle school and elementary PE and health teachers (grades 3-8) will meet for the final time this year on May 6, 2025. The group has spent the year collaborating and engaging in professional learning focused on reviewing new standards, aligning curriculum, and developing lessons. Their goal has been to create a cohesive K-12 plan for the new Comprehensive Health and Physical Education frameworks, which also incorporate SEL-related standards.

### **Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt**

Dot Pearl, Wellness Director, along with Assistant Superintendent Vicky Saldana and Assistant Superintendent Colleen Terrill, is leading a community-wide book study for parents and community members of the Tri-Towns, centered on *Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood Is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt.

Our first meeting was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at the KPRHS library, where we welcomed participants, introduced the study, and discussed the book's Introduction (pages 1-17). This book study offers an opportunity for thoughtful conversation around the important issues impacting today's youth, and all parents and community members are warmly invited to join us for any or all of the upcoming sessions. The full schedule is as follows:

- **April 15, 2025:** Welcome/Introductions, Discuss Introduction (pages 1-17)
- **April 29, 2025:** Parts 1 and 2: *A Tidal Wave* and *The Back Story*, Chapters 1-4 (pages 21-110)
- **May 6, 2025:** Part 3: *The Great Rewiring*, Chapters 5-8 (pages 113-218)

- **May 20, 2025:** Part 4: *Collective Action for Healthier Childhood*, Chapters 9–12 (pages 221–295)

Each session will be held at the KPRHS library. If you would like to participate please reach out to Dot Pearl [pearld@kingphilip.org](mailto:pearld@kingphilip.org) for a copy of the book and [more information](#).

### **Advocacy Day in Washington, DC**

On May 6, 2025 I will be participating in an Educational Technology Advocacy Day in Washington, DC. I, along with approximately 70 educators (four from Massachusetts) and industry professionals from across the US, will meet with legislators to advocate for critical support for our schools. Our focus will be on the importance of Student Data Privacy, and advocating for E-rate funding to strengthen school networks and cybersecurity. Additionally, I will advocate for the continuation and expansion of federal grants, specifically Title II and Title IV. Title II funding is essential for supporting our mentoring program, which provides guidance and professional growth for new teachers and teacher assistants during their first years in the profession. Title IV funding helps us offer high-quality professional learning opportunities and intervention programs that directly benefit our students' success.

### **School Committee Retreat and the Strategic Plan**

During the summer at the School Committee retreat, Dr. Drolet and I will review and share the progress we have made toward our current strategic plan priorities. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the milestones we have reached and reflect on the work completed. We will also use this time to collaboratively determine our focus areas for the coming year, identifying where we can build on our successes and where further attention is needed to continue moving our strategic goals forward.

# What is Applied Learning?

One8 Discovery Program

Applied Learning inspires students with an **innovative, engaging** way to approach core and elective subject matter. Through **collaboration and iteration**, learners **apply knowledge** to discover the answers to **real-world** questions – developing lasting comprehension by learning how to solve **complex problems** and why what they learn is **relevant** in everyday life.

*Applied Learning serves as the next instructional leap in education.*

# 5 Tenets of Applied Learning

## **Poses meaningful real-world problems**

Assigned work is student-driven and centered on solving complex, real-world problems.

## **Pairs content & soft skills**

Develops both deep, relevant content knowledge and skills adults use to successfully manage work.

## **Requires iteration and persistence**

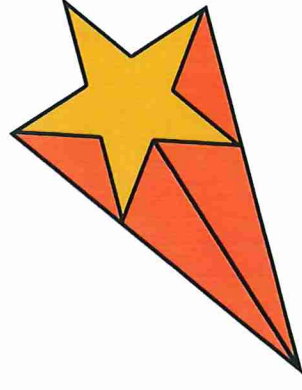
Students use failure to drive iteration, persistence, and modification.

## **Prioritizes collaboration & communication**

The learning experience requires that students collaborate or seek out additional information in order to define and solve the problem or communicate their solution.

## **Provides a professional frame**

Lessons frame problems from the perspectives of professionals in the associated field to help students understand why the content is relevant and who uses it in the real world.



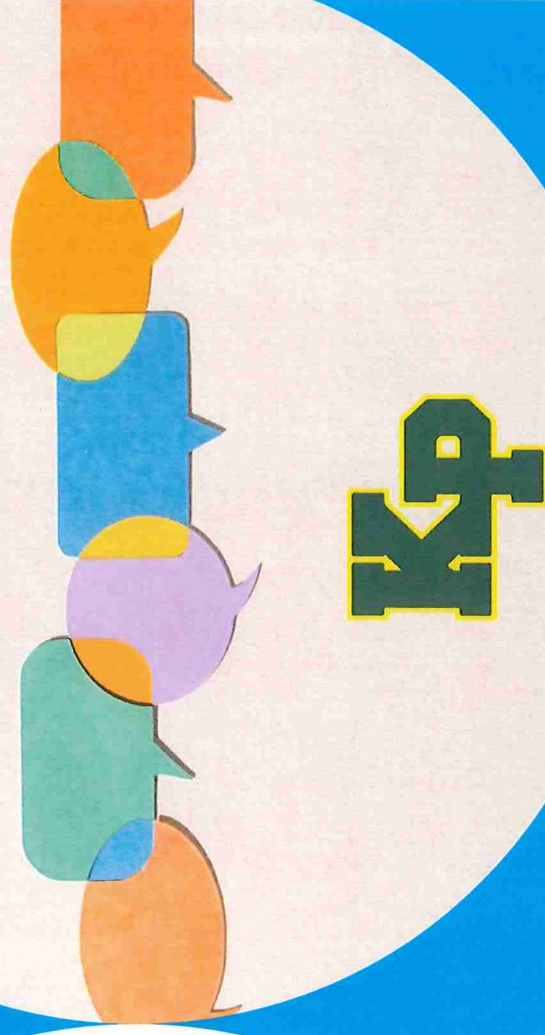
## Focus Area #1: Teaching, Learning, and Leading for All

**Initiative:** Create student-centered classrooms, project-based learning, authentic assessments, and real-world course offerings

**Outcome:** Improve student engagement, collaboration, critical thinking skills, student agency and multiple opportunities to demonstrate application of knowledge

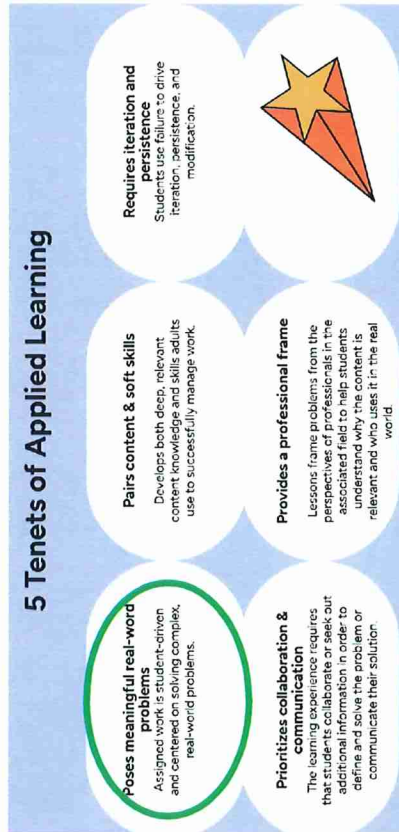
(p. 17)

How does Applied Learning  
relate to the  
KP Strategic Plan?



# Where will we start?

## Student Engagement



## Poses meaningful, real-word problems

Assigned work is student-driven and centered on solving complex, real-world problems.

What is the  
observed level of  
student  
engagement?

How well are  
students able to  
explain what they  
are learning and  
how it applies to the  
real world?

Is the teacher or the  
students  
responsible for  
carrying the  
thinking?

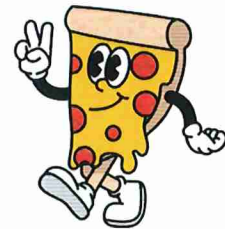


**April 30th**  
**ELPAC Family Get-Together**  
**5:30-7:00pm**  
 Wood School  
 72 Messenger Street  
 Plainville

**Learn what ELPAC can do for you!**

**Enjoy FREE pizza and snacks!**  
 Come connect with families, create friendships and have fun!

**Join us for some fun and FREE PIZZA on the playground!**



[CLICK HERE TO LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING!](#)  
 OR FILL OUT THE ATTACHED FORM

**For Questions, please contact your district administrator:**

- **KING PHILIP & PLAINVILLE:** COLLEEN TERRILL TERRILLC@KINGPHILIP.ORG 508-520-7991 x 2303
- **NORFOLK:** VICTORIA SALDANA VSALDANA@NORFOLK.K12.MA.US 508-528-1225
- **WRENTHAM:** VANESSA C. BEAUCHAINE BEAUCHAINEV@WRENTHAMSCHOOLS.ORG 774-847-5289

**➡ Translation services provided**

*Come meet other families from Norfolk, Wrentham & Plainville!*

**ELPAC Family Get-Together**

Original

 **File: BGB - POLICY ADOPTION**

Adoption of new policies or changing existing policies is solely the responsibility of the Regional School Committee. Policies will be adopted and/or amended only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Regional School Committee when such action has been scheduled on the agenda of a regular or special meeting.

To permit time for study of all policies or amendments to policies and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to react, proposed policies or amendments will be presented as an agenda item to the Committee in the following sequence:

1. Information item - distribution with agenda
2. Discussion item - reading of the proposed policy or policies; response from Superintendent; report from any advisory Committee assigned responsibility in the area; Committee discussion and directions for any redrafting
3. Action item - discussion, adoption or rejection.

Amendments to the policy at the action stage will not require repetition of the sequence, unless the Committee so directs.

The Regional School Committee may dispense with the above sequence to meet emergency conditions.

Policies will be effective upon the date set by the Regional School Committee. This date will ensure that affected persons have an opportunity to become familiar with the requirements of the new policy prior to its implementation.

SOURCE: MASC

Approved: King Philip Regional School Committee 2/24/2020

w/changes  
word doc (E.H.)

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Deleted: a majority of the members  
Deleted:

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PDF (EH)

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